

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 6 1445 ROSS AVENUE DALLAS, TEXAS 75202-2733

MAR 29 2010

Mr. Stephen Spencer Regional Environmental Officer U.S. Department of Interior Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance 1001 Indian School Road, NW, Suite 348 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87104

Dear Mr. Spencer:

Thank you for attending the Grants Mining District, Draft 5-year Plan technical workgroup meeting on March 11. Your coordination efforts and input into the Draft 5-year Plan have been very much appreciated.

I also wanted to thank you for meeting with John Meyer and LaDonna Turner to discuss the work that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has started at the Jackpile Mine on the Pueblo of Laguna. As you are aware, EPA started the formal consultation process with Governor Antonio and his council members on October 13, 2009. Governor Antonio and his council members have requested that we evaluate the Jackpile Mine for listing on EPA's National Priorties List (NPL). We received from Governor Antonio and his council, a copy of signed Resolution Number 10-10, dated February 2, 2010, supporting the listing of the Jackpile Mine on the NPL.

The EPA has conducted a sampling event at the Jackpile Mine during the week of March 1. We are currently waiting for the analytical data and when received we will be preparing a draft Hazard Ranking System (HRS) package.

If you have any questions regarding our activities at the Jackpile Mine or development of the HRS, please contact me at 214-665-8125 or John Meyer of my staff at 214-665-6742.

Sincerely yours,

Wren Stenger

Associate Director, Superfund Division Technical and Enforcement Branch

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